

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete multiple dependencies in the claims.  
It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Nov. 25, 2003

By: H. J. Staas  
H. J. Staas  
Registration No. 22,010

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501